



Keep Calm
&
Sparkle on!

ENCOURAGEMENTS THIS WEEK

MUSIC

[Zadoc the Priest](#)

From the Coronation of HM The Queen

THE PASSING OF HM THE QUEEN

[Resources and liturgy on the death of HM The Queen from The Church of England](#)



An Australian Prayer on the death of Queen Elizabeth the Second

Almighty God, ruler of every nation, we give thanks for the life of your servant, Queen Elizabeth the Second.

Whose faithful obedience to her calling and in whose leadership marked by sacrificial service have inspired generations of people.

May the heavenly grace which sustained her comfort all who mourn her death.

Inspire, we pray, by her example, the leaders and people of Great Britain, the Commonwealth, and this nation of Australia to work together with renewed passion for justice and peace.

As you have received her into her eternal rest, renew our trust that nothing can separate us from your love,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Well, this is a day many will have been anticipating and yet, like all grief about endings, it's one thing to anticipate, it's another to be in the midst of it. Today is a day when I believe we set aside our views about the monarchy/ republic debate. Today is a day when we acknowledge and give thanks for the faithful sovereignty of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Seven decades in public service, she travelled the world, supporting countless causes and was patron of hundreds of charities, committed to supporting those who supported others. All of it, inspired by her deep faith. Let me quote part of her Christmas message of 2014, where she said: "For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role model of reconciliation and forgiveness he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing. Christ's example has taught me to seek to respect and value all people of whatever faith, or none."

At 21 yrs of age on the occasion of her coronation she pledged herself to inhabiting the role of Queen, and for 70 years as Monarch she has remained faithful to that promise. As the head of the Church of England, her Majesty's faith was indeed the "anchor" that kept her grounded but not immobilised, resolute though not impervious to human tragedy and suffering, unwavering even through personal and family tragedy and challenge, and dutiful even in the last days of her life. One day after another. One brief after another. One duty after another.

I was awed by her ability to engage with the public—all that shaking of hands and the polite conversations that must have occurred thousands upon thousands of times through her life, reflecting a willingness to help someone else feel important and acknowledged. I cheered her passion for sustaining and renewing God's creation. I had watched a programme of the Queen chatting with Sir David Attenborough about her love of trees and her desire to create a global network of forest conservation projects ([here](#)). Like many, I was distressed to see her seated alone in her grief, mourning the death of her husband Philip, Duke of Edinburgh in Westminster Abbey. Faithfully present. Faithfully following the Covid code of conduct at the time. I admired that she remained a unifying voice of wisdom and encouragement throughout her very long life. I'm humbled that just 2 days before her death, she performed her constitutional duties with Britain's new prime minister, Liz Truss.



Even in the midst of global grief, it's been a delight to hear some of the stories of various dignitaries encounters with her. Stories not only of her dutifulness as Monarch, but also as wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Clearly she had a wonderful sense of humour, as indicated by this delightful recounting of a conversation between herself and a passer-by ([here](#)). As I've said before, humour is a wonderful protective factor against many of the weightier matters in life, of which she surely had her full!

There's much that can and will be said about her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, anchored, and committed to anchoring others. A true disciple.

It's a solemn day; a sad day; a day of thanksgiving for an incredible life lived faithfully. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

(From Durham Cathedral, Bede's prayer, based on Rev 2:28):

Christ is the morning star, who, when the night of this world is past, brings to his saints the promise of the light of life and opens everlasting day. AMEN

+ Kate



CHORAL EVENSONG THIS SUNDAY

The Archbishop will be preaching at the Choral Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral on Sunday 11 September 2022 at 6:00pm to celebrate the long life of the Queen. The service will be live streamed.

WELLBEING

I thought you might be interested in this approach to wellbeing:

[Company 'slowdown' puts workers on a roll](#) ("The Age", 26 August 2022)

ODDTHENONG ANNUAL RETREAT

I do encourage you to come to the Oodthenong retreat. We are privileged to set aside 3 days each year to pray, be silent, reflect, ponder, wonder, be present with God. It's always booked for a time after our Synod, so...good timing!

Please click [here](#) to register

ST JOHN'S PARISH RETREAT (This is primarily targeted for lay people. Details for the Oodthenong retreat are above)

EXPLORING MY IDENTITY IN GOD - Friday 7 October to Sunday 9 October 2022

At Santa Casa Retreat Centre Queenscliff (For more information, please click [here](#))

VISIT OF ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY SUNDAY OCTOBER 9 AT 6.30PM

The Archbishop of Canterbury will be visiting Melbourne on Sunday October 9, and we are marking the occasion with an Evensong service at 6.30pm at St Paul's Cathedral.

If you wish to attend, please RSVP via email to The Reverend Canon Heather Patacca

hpatacca@melbourneanglican.org.au